GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3241
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008
EXPORT OF INDIAN BANANAS TO GULF COUNTRIES
Barman Shri Hiten;Barman Shri Ranen;Bose Shri Subrata;Mahato Shri Narahari

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of bananas and its products has decreased during each of the last three years and in the current year till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has explored possibilities of exporting Indian bananas and its products to the Gulf countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) No, Sir.Decline in the export of bananas has been seen only in 2006-07. The details of export of bananas during the last four years are given below:

(Quantity in metric tons;Value in Rupees in crore)

2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08
Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Value
10876	11.71	12817	13.42	14411	23.36	11475	16.06	5.56

(Source;DGCI&S) Provisional for April-June 2007
The data on export of banana products is not available separately.

(b) Feedback received from the exporters reveals that the export of bananas and its products has decreased due to stiff competition from banana producing countries like Philippines, Thailand, China and Latin American countries.

(c)&(d) Indian bananas are being exported to Gulf countries. The steps taken by the Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority to promote export of bananas and its products to various markets including gulf countries include financial assistance for setting up of a packhouse for banana in Gujarat and two in Maharashtra, setting up of an Agri Export Zone for banana each in Kerala and Maharashtra, development of packaging standards and providing assistance under its schemes for Infrastructure Development,Market development,Quality Development, Research& Development and Transport assistance.

(e) Does not arise.